

MURRAY and HUBER CONTINUE to SERVE on DISTRICT BOARD

Joe Murray was re-elected by Clallam County voters for another three-year term on the Clallam Conservation District (CCD) Board of Supervisors. Joe was unopposed in the February elections. Nash Huber was re-appointed by the Washington Conservation Commission to one of the two appointed positions on the CCD Board.

Joe and Nash serve with Bob Forde, Don Hatler, and Ben Smith on the five-member Board of Supervisors. Each supervisor serves a three-year term of office without compensation.

The Board of Supervisors identifies local conservation priorities, sets goals and oversees the implementation of plans to protect soil, water, wildlife, and other renewable natural resources. The Board employs a staff of 4-6 and administers an annual budget estimated to be over \$4 million in 2007. The Board meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 3:00PM at the CCD office. The meetings are open to the public.

A huge thank you to the volunteer polling officers for your hard work at the election: John Batey, Deirdre Cahill, Bob Caldwell, Virginia Clark, Walt Forsberg, Robert Robinson, and Laurel Worline-Burness. We appreciate all your help!

Back by Popular Demand:

Landscaping with Native Plants Field Walk

Dates: Saturday, April 21 OR
Thursday, April 26

Time: 1:00 to 4:00pm

Where: Dungeness Recreation Area



Participants will learn to identify over 30 native trees and shrubs, as well as their cultural requirements, habitat attributes, and ornamental qualities while walking the trails of the

Dungeness Recreation Area.

The field trip is free; however, pre-registration is required. Please call (360) 452-1912 ext. 5 to register.

2007 PLANT SALE

Thank you to everyone who ordered native plants from us this Spring. Approximately 11,500 native plants found new homes with 220 Clallam County families.

Don't forget to keep those trees and shrubs well watered this spring and summer.

A special word of appreciation goes out to our 12 enthusiastic volunteers who donated their time to make our plant sale a success. Brittainy Costa, Jessica Coyle, Lisa Gouveia, Merrill Jefferson, Terry Kush, Dave Manson, Steve & Bonnie McGee, Hillary Neal, Susan Skaggs, Nancy Watson, and Margaret Yates all worked hard sorting, packaging and distributing plants.

Thanks again - we couldn't have done it without you!



District manager, Joe Holtrop, and long-time plant sale volunteers, Dave Manson and Merrill Jefferson, brave a hail storm to package plants for the plant sale.

2006 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Clallam Conservation District budget for 2006 eclipsed all previous budgets in District history, nearly doubling the 2005 budget. Expenditures (and corresponding revenues) for the year totaled over \$2 million. The vast majority of expenditures were for the Clallam-Cline-Dungeness Irrigation Water Conservation Project.



The Clallam-Cline-Dungeness Irrigation Water Conservation Project is a complex project involving the joining of three separate open irrigation water delivery systems into a single pipeline system. Approximately 17 miles of open ditch are being replaced with about 16 miles of closed end pipeline. The total estimated cost of the project is \$5 million. All of the main canal piping should be complete by the time you read this. Just a few small laterals remain to be piped in the fall, depending on the availability of funds. The project will conserve at least six cubic feet per second (over 1,800 acre feet) of water – water that will remain in the Dungeness River for increased stream flows and salmon habitat.

Other highlights of 2006 include the progress made on the development of an action plan to address flooding, water quality problems and habitat improvement opportunities in the Three Crabs area. In total, District staff recorded over 1,950 individual contacts with land users throughout Clallam County. Those contacts led to the development of ten comprehensive conservation plans addressing the conservation of renewable natural resources on 205 acres.

Other accomplishments include the following:

- ⇒ 8,425 feet of irrigation ditch piped (0.35 cfs water savings)
- ⇒ 1,900 feet of streambank protected with livestock exclusion fencing
- ⇒ 23 acres of riparian area protected
- ⇒ 3 barriers to fish passage corrected
- ⇒ 1 rain garden demonstration constructed
- ⇒ Heavy use area protection applied on 9 farms
- ⇒ Roof runoff management installed on 4 farms
- ⇒ Manure storage structure constructed on 1 farm
- ⇒ 147 participants in workshops/presentations about low impact development



From left, CCD Supervisor Nash Huber, Representative Kevin Van De Wege, CCD Supervisor Don Hatler and Dave Gilbert, volunteer engineer for irrigators, discuss piping projects.



Schoolchildren at the 2006 Dungeness RiverFest make native plant leaf rubbings at the Clallam Conservation District booth.

- ⇒ Built Green checklist completed
- ⇒ 58 participants in workshops about rain water harvesting
- ⇒ 279 participants in workshops about natural landscaping
- ⇒ 100 fifth graders learned about the water cycle, watersheds, stormwater and rain gardens
- ⇒ Assistance with soil testing provided for 59 soil tests

Expenses for 2006 totaled \$2,047,804. Revenues totaled \$2,052,660. Grants accounted for over 99% of the revenues, nearly half coming from the Department of Ecology. Implementation of conservation practices accounted for over 80 percent of the expenses. Employee wages and benefits accounted for 14%.

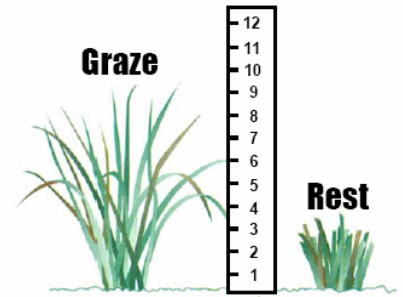
Visit our web site at <http://clallam.scc.wa.gov/> to view the entire 2006 Report of Accomplishments as well as the 2007 Plan of Work.

SPRING IS HERE...IS YOUR FARM READY?

Now that spring is officially here there are a few things that you can do to get your farm back on track after the crazy winter weather we endured.

Grazing

- Wait until soil is firm before grazing. If livestock are leaving hoof prints then the soil is too wet for grazing.
- Divide large pastures into smaller paddocks that can be used to rotate livestock.
- Use the “take half, leave half” rule of thumb when grazing pastures. Grass should be approximately 6 – 8 inches when livestock are turned onto a pasture and 3 – 4 inches when they are removed.
- Mow and drag pastures on a regular basis to promote more palatable forage, prevent weeds from going to seed and to evenly distribute manure.



Weeds

- Scout for weeds, especially poisonous weeds, in your pastures, along fence lines, and around feeding areas.
- Soils are damp and soft this time of year, making hand pulling easier.
- Be sure to replant any bare areas with grass to prevent weeds from having a chance to get started.

Manure & Fertilizing

- Spread manure on pastures with at least 3 inches of grass and firm soils.
- Spread about a ½ inch of manure at a time, no more than 3 – 4 inches per year.
- Do not spread manure near streams, ponds, ditches, or other waterways (nutrients and bacteria from manure can runoff and pollute waterways).
- Consider taking a soil test to determine how much fertilizer your pastures need for optimum grass growth (the Conservation District has a low-cost soil testing program, call for more information).

Reseeding

- Reseed areas that are bare as a result of heavy use during the winter months, especially sacrifice pastures.
- When reseeding, be sure that your seed has good soil contact and that your seedbed is firm (you should be able to walk across it and leave footprints about a ¼ inch deep).
- Overseeding is a good technique to use if you would like to add specific grass species into your pasture or boost production (lightly tear or scratch the surface soil surface with a harrow to expose some bare soil).
- Keep in mind that if a pasture is reseeded it will not be available for grazing for at least 90 days.

Clallam Conservation District provides free site visits and technical assistance to horse and livestock owners on subjects such as pasture, mud and manure management. For more information visit our website at <http://clallam.scc.wa.gov> or call (360) 452-1912 ext. 109.

OPPORTUNITIES for FORESTLAND OWNERS

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) administered by The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is developing six cost-share agreements for Forest Land Conservation Practices totaling approximately \$56,000.00 in Clallam and Jefferson Counties. The practices include: forest stand improvement, slash treatment, forest site preparation, and tree and shrub planting.



Additional EQIP funding is anticipated for the 2008 contract period. Producers with forestland must have one of the following to be considered eligible for the program:

1. A forest management plan or forest stewardship plan,
2. A prior record of timber harvest or revenue from timber sales, or
3. Proof of past capital investment for forestry practices.

Cost sharing is available for other forestry related practices in addition to those mentioned above. Applications are accepted throughout the year. For more information contact Jim Poffel at (360) 452-8994 ext. 101.

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If you are interested in becoming a newsletter sponsor, for \$50 per year your name or the name of your business will be printed four times in the sponsor section of the newsletter, or for \$100 per year, your company business card will also be printed once a year.

The Conservation News is published quarterly and is currently reaching over 1,854 mailboxes and is available for review on our website. Your support will help us reach more people interested in getting involved in local conservation efforts.

For information on becoming a sponsor, please call (360) 452-1912 ext. 5.

Visit our website at <http://clallam.scc.wa.gov>

Clallam Conservation District is a sub-division of state government created to promote the stewardship and conservation of natural resources in Clallam County. **Public meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 3:00 p.m. at the USDA Service Center, 1601 E. Front St., Bldg/Suite A in Port Angeles.**

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Joe Murray, Chair
Ben Smith, Vice-Chair
Nash Huber, Auditor
Bob Forde, Member
Don Hatler, Member

DISTRICT STAFF

(360) 452-1912 ext. 5

District Manager: Joe Holtrop
Administrative Assistant: Janell Kiphart

Conservation Planners:

Jennifer Coyle-Bond, Meghan Peacock,
and Clea Rome

CREP Planner: Luke Cherney

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

Jim Poffel
(360) 452-8994 ext. 101

Want to help us save a tree???

Our newsletter is available in email format, so if you would like to help us conserve resources give us a call at (360) 452-1912 ext. 5 or send an email to ccd-info@wa.nacdn.net to start receiving the electronic version of our newsletter.



- ⇒ Spring Farm Management Tips
- ⇒ 2006 Accomplishments
- ⇒ Board Election & Appointment Results

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

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